MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property Name: Inventory Number: Leaves CH-855
Address: 207 St. Mary's Avenue, Charles County - 17 the Vianity of La Plata
Owner: Arehart, Roy C and C Louise
Tax Parcel Number: 65 Tax Map Number: 112
Project MD 301 Agency State Highway Administration (SHA)
Site visit by SHA Staff: X no _ yes Name: Date:
Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended _X
CriteriaABCD
Is property located within a historic district?: X no _ yes Name of District:
Is district listed?: X no yes
Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project Review and Compliance Files
Description of Property and Eligibility Determination (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)
207 St. Mary's Avenue is a one-and-one-half-story, Craftsman-style bungalow. The wood frame house is clad with stucco and is covered by a side gable roof with wide overhanging eaves. A shallow pitched front gable dormer pierces the roof. A large, one-story porch wraps around the house from the southern half of the main elevation (east) to the south elevation. The square, screened-in porch is covered by a cross gable roof with wide overhanging eaves. The roof is supported by tapered, square columns resting on rock-faced concrete block piers.
The bungalow became the dominant style of middle and working class housing in the period between 1900 and 1920. It was a style spread primarily by plans sold in popular catalogues, rather than by architects. Bungalows are typically one-and-one-half-story structures, with low, horizontal lines and an integral porch on the front of the house. They are also characterized by a series of broad gables that form contiguous and receding plans. Gables often are bracketed and have projecting eaves. Roofs are gently pitched and often have either gable or shallow shed dormers. The bungalow form frequently features Craftsman-style detailing, such as exposed rafter tails, wood brackets under eave overhangs, and wide wood frames around doors and windows. Bungalows were enormously popular in the early
Prepared by EHT Traceries, Inc.
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW Eligibility recommended Criteria: _ A _ B _ C _ D _ E _ F _ G _ None
10/28/99
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services
Reviewer, NR Program Date

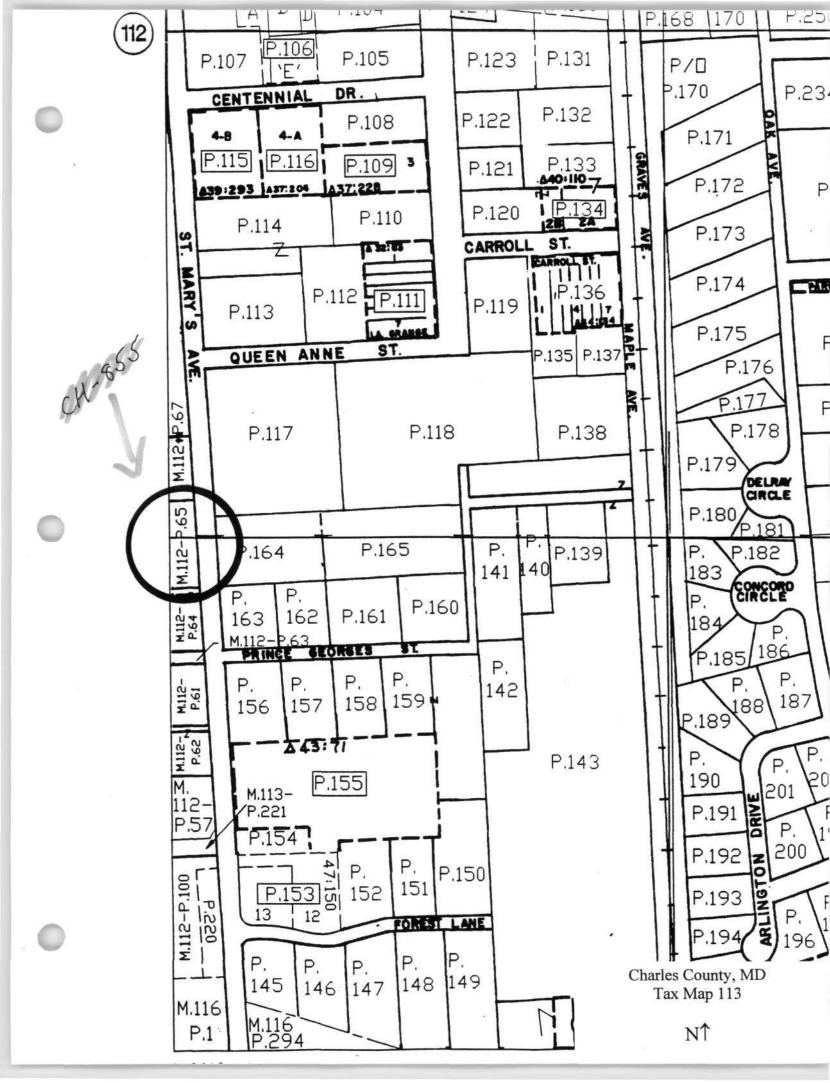
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years of the 20th century because they were inexpensive to design and build. Their emergence coincided with the rise in the number of working and middle class Americans who could afford to purchase a house.

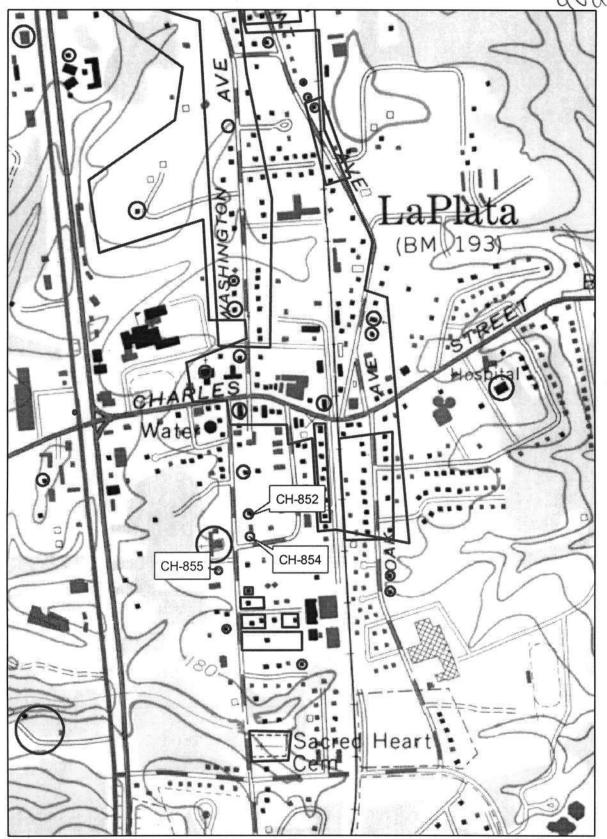
Charles County's late 19th- and early 20th-century history is dominated by industrial and urban development. The greatest impact upon community growth came from the railroad. The completion of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad's (B&P) mainline from Bowie in Prince George's County to Pope's Creek in Charles County in 1872 prompted local entrepreneurs to establish stores and other commercial facilities near the railroad stations. The B&P Railroad also made inland farms accessible, thus, increasing their value and revitalizing the practice of agriculture in Southern Maryland. As a main stop on the B&P line, La Plata was able to expand both commercially and residentially. La Plata station still stands at the intersection of the rail line with Charles Street.

Towards the end of the first quarter of the 20th century, road improvements and developments also contributed to La Plata's community evolution. In particular, the Robert Crain Highway, later expanded as part of U.S. 301, attracted new development to older communities along its corridor. Crain Highway brought commercial development on La Plata's west side and contributed to the Charles County seat's overall growth in the 1920s and 1930s.

Built circa 1920, this Craftsman-style bungalow is not eligible for the National Register. While this house is typical of the residential development within La Plata, this resource lacks significance related to events, persons, or architecture. Criterion D, information potential, was not assessed for this study.



CM-855 La Plata Quad





#10009 CH-855 207 St Mary's Avenue Charles County, MD TRACERIES June 1999 MD SHPO View looking northwest